

தமிழ்நாடு மத்தியப்  
பல்கலைக்கழகம்



CENTRAL  
UNIVERSITY OF  
TAMIL NADU

तमिलनाडु केन्द्रीय  
विश्वविद्यालय

ESTABLISHED BY AN ACT OF PARLIAMENT IN 2009

## Department of Music

### School of Performing Arts and Fine Arts

NEWSLETTER – Vol -1, No.2 &3 (April 2019 – September 2019)

Message from the Head of the Department...

*The Department of Music is proud in bringing out the next issue of the e-Newsletter. Located in a serene environment in the Nagakkudi campus, the Department offers quality classical music education towards an Undergraduate degree, Research degree programmes, as well as extends it to the students of other Departments of CUTN, as generic electives. Filled with values, culture and tradition, all the members of the Department join hands to the development of music in this region. Since its establishment, the Department has been standing first in many aspects at CUTN. Wishing the Department more and more laurels and, we present you this e-Newsletter, highlighting the all-round achievements by students, scholars and staff members.*

### *Music Performances*

**Participation from the Department of Music in the 257<sup>th</sup> Sri Sangeetha Mumurti Jayanthi Festival @ Tiruvarur**



Tiruvarur is the birthplace of the Trinity of South Indian Music and each year their birth is celebrated during April-May. Music performances are organized at Lord Tyagaraja Swami – Kamalamba temple, where artists from all over the country pay the musical tribute. The highlight of the programme is the group rendering of the Pancaratna Kirtana-s of Sri Tyagaraja. During the 257<sup>th</sup> Sri Sangeeta Mummurthi Jayanti festival on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2019, the faculty members, Dr. V Premalatha and Dr. Harish Narayan, Mr. N Manoj (UGC-JRF Research scholar) and R Soundarya from IMA Economics rendered the Pancaratna kirtana-s along with other musicians. Earlier Compositions of Saint Tyagaraja was also rendered in his house, where he was born. Honorable Governor of Tamil Nadu, Sri Banwarilal Purohit was the chief guest of the function.

## Homage to Sathguru Sri Sadhashiva Brahmendra



Sri Sadashiva Brahmendra is one of the Saint Composers of South Indian Music and an Advaita Philosopher, who lived during 18<sup>th</sup> century and attained Jiva Samadhi. As an offering to the great Saint, the anniversary festival was organized by Sathguru Sri Sadashiva Brahmendra Aradhana Trust, on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at Manamadurai. Mr. P. Nirmal Harish, Ph.D. Scholar of the Department CUTN performed his compositions during the occasion.

## Brihat Tripuram- Bharathanatyam Recital

“Brihat Tripuram” was an event organized by ‘South Zone Cultural Center, Thanjavur in association with Anantara Institutions, Dubai, UAE at Brihadiswara temple, Thanjavur. Miss. S. Pooja, guest faculty of the Department provided the vocal support for the recital of Bharathanatyam.



## Thiruppugazh Rendering by Manoj



“Thiruppugazh” refers to the beautiful and divine poetry composed by the revered Tamil Saint Sri Arunagirinatha of 15<sup>th</sup> century. A music programme was organized in Chennai by Smt. Chitra Murthi on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2019, in which Mr. N Manoj (UGC-JRF Research Scholar) rendered a concert on “Thiruppugazh” songs. He has been rendering music at many occasions too.

## Melattur Bhagavatha Mela Nataka

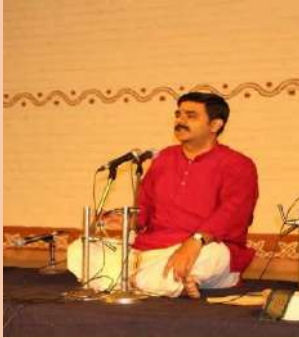
Bhagavatha Meḷa is an ancient traditional theatre art form (dance drama) combining classical music, dance and drama. It is very popularly rendered in places like Melattur and Saliyamangalam in Thanjavur district. It is noteworthy that the whole performance is rendered only by men.



P. Nirmal Harish, Ph.D. Research Scholar rendered the Vocal support for the Music during the annual Melattur Bhagavatha Mela Natakam, organized during 16<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019. For various themes of presentation like, Prahlada Bhakthi Vijayam, Harichandra natakam and Andal Kalyanam.

### **Arutpa Isaimazhai**

The truth of Divine Light has been revealed and realized by Ramalingam swami or Tiru Arutprakasa Vallalar of Vadalur and his writings were called as ‘Tiru Arutpa’ or the verses of the divine light. Dr. R. Sivaraman and his group had presented a concert on the Arutpa on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2019.



### **Classical Music Grading and All India Radio LIVE concert**

Dr. K Harish Narayan, Guest Faculty secured the B ‘grade’ in Classical Music- Vocal from the All India Radio, Chennai. Subsequently his first LIVE concert was broadcast LIVE on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2019 over the AIR for about 30 minutes.

### **Ranga Pravesham - 2019**

Learning an art is to perform on stage. The debut stage performance is called the Ranga Pravesham or Arangetram. The Department of Music along with IQAC, CUTN organized the Ranga Pravesham for the II year BPA Music students on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at the Multi-Purpose Auditorium.



The programme signifies the acquiring of the music art from the teacher and offering it before the audience. Thus the day being celebrated as Teachers Day became more appropriate for the event. The two teams, comprising of Girls and Boys each, rendered the compositions that they had learnt at the Department. The programme was appreciated by the Honourable Vice Chancellor, Librarian, Faculty members, students and their parents. The participants were awarded with certificates.

### ***Seminar / Workshop / Conference***

### **Ragam Tanam Pallavi- Workshop**

The Arkay conventional Centre, Chennai organized a Workshop on the rendition of the Ragam Tanam Pallavi (RTP) by Dr. Sriram Parasuram during 13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> May 2019. Mr. N Manoj (UGC-JRF Research scholar), had participated in the workshop to understand the techniques rendering the RTP, which is one of the important aspects of Performing Music.

## National Seminar on ‘Compositions on kshetra-s’

Sri Sathguru Sangeetha Vidyalayam, College of Music and Research Centre, Madurai organized a National Seminar on ‘Compositions on kshetra-s’ on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2019. Mr. N Manoj (UGC-JRF scholar) presented a paper on ‘Arunagirinathar’s Contribution of Thiruppugazh on Svamimalai kshetra’. The paper focused on the greatness and technical aspects of Thiruppugazh songs, composed on the presiding deity of Svamimalai temple.

In the same event, Mr. P. Nirmal Harish (Ph.D. Scholar) presented a paper on the title ‘Musical compositions of different composers of the Pre-trinity period on the kshetra -Tiruvarur’. The paper was based on the contributions of the various composers on the presiding deities of Tiruvarur temple until the pre-trinity period (before 18<sup>th</sup> century). Both the papers have been accepted for publication.



## Workshop on ‘Manodharma Sangita’



The students of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year BPA Music attended a Workshop on ‘An Easy Way to Approach Manodharma Sangita’ organized by Sri Sathguru Sangeetha Vidyalayam, College of Music and Research Centre, Madurai, on 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2019. Eminent Musicologist and Veena artist Dr. R.S Jayalakshmi, was the resource person of the workshop. This workshop focused on the improvisational

techniques of the raga-s in the approach of the alapana and rendition of the kalpana svara-s, which would be highly helpful for students.

### *Student’s Achievements - Cultural & Sports*

Cultural and Sports events were organized on the occasion of the Onam celebration called ‘THARANGAM-2019’ on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 at the Multipurpose Auditorium, CUTN. Students of the Department excelled in many activities.

- Khetavath Suman, 2<sup>nd</sup> year BPA Music and his team won the cricket tournament.
- P. Amaldeep, 2<sup>nd</sup> year BPA Music, won second place in solo song competition.
- Khetavath Suman, 2<sup>nd</sup> year BPA Music won special prize for solo song competition.
- Adorn Alex, 3<sup>rd</sup> year BPA Music, won first place for the Malayalam song rendition.



Thiruvavur District Cricket Association conducted DPS inter-college tournament on 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 2019. S. Venkadesh, 2<sup>nd</sup> year BPA Music and his team got runner up place.

***Overcoming his disability to Play Veena***

T V Varun, student of the III year BPA music, is physically challenged, who has taken up Music for his graduation. With great efforts, he has also tried to play Veena, in the squatting position and excelling himself.



***Honourable Chancellor's Visit to the Department***

The Honourable Chancellor of CUTN, Padma Vibhushan Prof. G. Padmanabhan visited the Department of Music on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2019. He inquired about the genesis and growth of the



Department and was highly delighted to see the students performing music in their classrooms. He also interacted with the research scholars and faculty members



and commended them on the areas of research, they had chosen.

He wished to participate in performing music, the next time when he visited CUTN.

**Research Scholar from Mumbai Visits Department**



Dr. Padmavathi Thyagaraju a researcher from Mumbai visited to Department and interacted with the scholars and Faculty members. She is currently working on Sahaji's "Vishnu Pallaki Seva Prabandham". She was keen in knowing the traditional musical compositions of South Indian Classical Music.

**Research @ Music Department**

**New Ph.D. Scholars**

Mr. P Nirmal Harish and Miss M Bhairavi (UGC-JRF) have registered for the Ph.D. degree course at the Department of Music. Mr. Nirmal Harish is interested to pursue research in inquiring the melodic and structural aspects of the musical forms and compositions which were widely practiced during 17<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.



Miss. Bhairavi, a performer on South Indian Classical Violin, is passionate in studying the impact of music on the human behavior, thus experimenting on the Psychological effects. This is the first **Inter-disciplinary Research topic** at the Department, involving **MUSIC & Psychology**.

**On-going Publication Project Work**

Dr. V Premalatha is a recipient of the Research Publication Project of the National Mission for Manuscripts, Govt. of India. She is in the process of publishing an unpublished music work called Talalakshanam of 15<sup>th</sup> century from ancient Palm leaf manuscripts. In connection to that, she visited various libraries to collect the information, like Oriental Manuscripts Library, University of Kerala, Kariavattom campus, Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, Chennai. The project is to get completed by the end of December.



**Traditional Veena making @ Thanjavur**

Thanjavur is specially known for the manufacturing of musical instruments like, Veena and Tambura. There are many traditional Veena makers, who have been engaged in the manufacturing work for generations. Dr. Premalatha visited Thanjavur for ordering Veena for the Department, from traditional Veena makers. Here are some pictures of various stages of manufacturing Veena.



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